



Te Kura o Otari  
Otari School

# News

*Inspiring a love of learning through an education that values the development of the whole child.*

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9 February 2017

Issue 1, Week 2, Term 1

**FLOWERS AND LEAVES** are needed for the junior syndicate to make sand saucers for the Wadestown/Wilton Horticultural Summer show. Please deliver to junior classes or the office this **Friday morning**. Please raid your gardens for anything you can spare. Many thanks.

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to the 2017 school year! We have a number of new students and whānau to welcome to Otari School. Nau mai haere mai ki:

Abigail Grant	Ngaio	Albie Robertson	Pounamu
Harry Grant	Ngaio	Alexis Tzeng	Pounamu
Teo Vere-Jones	Pohutukawa	Clara Shelton	Pounamu
Dylan Paloma	Pohutukawa	Noor Adham	Pounamu
Francesca Elliott	Pohutukawa	Pearl Campbell-Macdonald	Kaikomako
Toanui Bishara	Kowhai	Eslem Califkan	Kereru
Reihana Christian Wagner	Kowhai	Theodore White	Kowhai
Winston Campbell- Macdonald	Kowhai		

We look forward to getting to know all of you and hope you very quickly feel part of the school community.

We also welcome new staff: Catherine Rees, teacher aide in Totara and Jo Fullelove, teacher aide in Tui. Katharine Saviana is also working in Pohutukawa for the term. We welcome back all other staff.

Welcome also to two student teachers, Rachel Field and Sophie Strawbridge who join our staff for the year. Rachel is working in Ngaio class and Sophie is working in Pounamu class on.

**Staffing for 2017** - Below is a list of all the staff and their roles:

<b>Clifford Wicks</b> , Principal	<b>Susan West</b> , D.P, Teacher (Kakano), SENCO, Original Strand leader
<b>Api Nathan</b> , Teacher (Tui), Assistant Principal, Immersion Strand Leader	<b>Seetha Ganesan</b> , Teacher (Ngaio), Syndicate 2 Leader*, Montessori Strand Leader
<b>Britta Martini</b> , Teacher (Pounamu), Syndicate 1 Leader*	<b>Deborah Sorensen</b> , Teacher (Pohutukawa)
<b>Lynette Franklin</b> , Teacher (Kowhai)	<b>Sacha Fell</b> , Teacher (Kereru)
<b>Glenise Ward</b> , Teacher (Kaikomako)	<b>Johanne Wicks</b> , Teacher (Totara) and Library Management
<b>Shani Leda</b> , Teacher (Kereru Support, DP release)	<b>Kathy Heath</b> , Reading Recovery Teacher
<b>Steve Devine</b> , Classroom Release Teacher (CRT)	<b>Cilla Noblett</b> , CRT (Immersion)
<b>Katharine Taylor</b> , Special Needs Teacher	<b>Sally Barraud</b> , Teacher Montessori
<b>Hanna Randall</b> , Specialist Teacher, Immersion	<b>Jillian Wilson</b> , Office Manager
<b>Parekohai Wells</b> , Kaiarahi-i te-Reo	<b>Katrina Murray</b> , Teaching Assistant
<b>Paula Crisp</b> , Teacher Aide	<b>Emile Guy</b> , Teacher Aide
<b>Sandi McKenzie-Edwards</b> , Teacher Aide	<b>Catherine Rees</b> , Teacher Aide
<b>Ximena Riquelme-Palacios</b> , Teacher Aide	<b>Jo Fullelove</b> , Teacher Aide
<b>Katharine Saviana</b> , Teaching Assistant	<b>Hilary Eats</b> , Librarian
<b>Alan Ward</b> , Caretaker	<b>Mike Heath</b> , Volunteer

\*Syndicate 1 (Years 1-4) = Pounamu, Kakano, Pohutukawa, Kowhai and Kaikomako

\*Syndicate 2 (Years 5-8) = Kereru, Totara, Ngaio and Tui

**School Structure and staffing** - It can be helpful for parents to understand exactly how a school allocates staffing. The Principal does have some autonomy to make staffing decisions, however there are also certain parameters and restrictions within which staffing is managed.

Otari School is allocated staffing through the Ministry of Education formulas that apply to all schools. The formulas provides for a certain number of "Fulltime Teacher Equivalents" or "FTTE". How many FTTE's a school receives depends on the following factors, each of which generates a certain number of FTTE's through its own particular formula:

- The year 1 roll
- The year 2 to 3 roll
- The year 4 to 8 roll
- The Māori Immersion roll
- The school's Reading Recovery allocation
- The number of Special Needs students
- The number of beginning teachers
- The number of teachers who are eligible for classroom release time (CRT)
- The total roll

Usually the teachers are used for the particular factor that generates them. For example, a beginning teacher might generate .2 (a full day) which must be used for that beginning teacher to be supported. CRT might generate .4 (two days) which must be used for teachers to be released twice a term.

When only focussing on staffing generated for classrooms the school is left with 3.2 FTTE for the Māori Immersion Strand (3 whole teachers and .2 for CRT and Whaea Api's management release) and 6.4 FTTE for the Original and Montessori Strands (6 whole teachers, .2 for CRT and .2 for Susan's management release.) .2 is equal to 10 days per term.

Included in the total number of teachers is the Principal. This year I am providing one hour of teaching support for the Original Strand and teaching Te Reo Pakeha for one and a half hours per week for some year 6 and 7 students in the Māori Immersion Strand. (Te Reo Pakeha/English is a learning area of Te Marautanga O Aotearoa.)

The Board, through the operation grant, has also allocated .2 for extra staffing and this is used in the Original Strand, in Kereru. The Montessori Trust has also funded extra teaching support in the Montessori Strand.

I try to be as equitable as possible when allocating staffing. This means factors such as class size and needs of students are considered. Two classes might have the same amount of students but very different needs in terms of learning challenges.

Please make an appointment to come and talk to me if you have any questions concerning the structure of classes or use of staffing within the school.

**Over-Arching Theme and Topics** - Theme - Te Tangata - The People. Classes will be learning through people related topics for Science, Social Studies and Health and PE. These will include anatomy related topics, studies of famous people from all areas of life, time periods and countries. They will explore civilisations, cultures and different aspects of human nature. Class newsletters will provide more detail about actual topics.

Below is a table of some key events and dates for term 1.

<b>TERM 1</b>
<b>Thursday's (9,16,23 Feb, 2,16 Mar) + Fri 17 Feb &amp; Wed 15 Mar:</b> Technology for Yr 7/8s
<b>Fridays (17 Feb - 7 April):</b> Swimming for Yr 1 & 2s
<b>Wed 15 Feb:</b> School picnic at Aotea Lagoon
<b>Tues 28 Feb:</b> Camp Meeting, 6pm
<b>7-10 Mar:</b> Camp for Yr 7 & 8s
<b>13-15 Mar:</b> Learning Goal Interviews
<b>Tues 21 Mar:</b> Athletics Day
<b>Wed 12 Apr:</b> End of term

**Technology** for Year 7 and 8s begins this week on Thursday. Year 7 and 8s are taken by bus, leaving school at **8.40am**, to the Technology Centre at Karori West School. Clifford will be the teacher accompanying them. Children take their morning tea with them, as they don't return to Otari until lunchtime. If your child misses the bus, please take them to Karori West yourself. **The cost for each student for Technology for the year is \$50.00 payable to Otari School.**

**Swimming Lessons** - Swimming for our Year 1 & 2 students begins on Friday. Information has been sent home regarding this. **Cost is \$55 payable to Otari School.** We need lots of parent help to assist with changing clothes so if you are able to help please email Britta at [britta@otari.school.nz](mailto:britta@otari.school.nz). We will require help every week for 8 weeks but even if you can only help one or two weeks, that would be great.

**School Picnic, Wednesday 15 February** - This year we are going to go back to Aotea Lagoon. We will leave school at 9.30am and return by 2.30pm. All whānau are encouraged to come and enjoy the day. We will require lots of parent help. Please return the slip at the end of newsletter. All children are to travel by bus with parents making their own way there. **The cost for the day is \$5.00 per child.**

**Lost Property** - Please make sure you name your child's clothing! This is very helpful if items are left around the school.

**Classroom Consumables** - As shown on the stationery list students are required to pay \$10 to cover classroom consumables for the year. Payment can be made via EFT-POS, cash or direct credit (06-0561-0017355-00). A donation of \$10 for photocopying/printing/photography would also be appreciated.

**Library Panui** - We welcome visits to our library. A reminder to our summer borrowers that books are now due back.

Books are borrowed for two weeks. Years 0-4 can borrow up to three books, years 5-8 up to 5 books. We do not charge for overdue books, but we do invoice for lost or damaged books. If your child has an overdue book, we still encourage them to borrow up to their limit.

Your child will visit the library every week with their class, as well as fortnightly library focused lessons. The library is also open every lunchtime.

If you have any concerns regarding the library, please contact Johanne ([library@otari.school.nz](mailto:library@otari.school.nz)). Thank you for your continued support, Johanne.

**Here are a few reminders, especially for our new parents:**

**Issues and Concerns** - We know there will be times when parents have a concern. We also know that there will be times when something that has occurred at school might be confusing, annoying or upsetting. Please seek clarification from your child's teacher first, if class related, or from the principal if school related.

It is always better to talk about a concern with the teacher than to worry. Often this enables things to be cleared up very quickly. When teaching and managing children there are occasions when the teacher 'gets things wrong.' When we do, we want to know and make amends. At the same time, sometimes only half a tale is told, so it is important to seek clarification first before making a judgement. We are in 'loco parentis', which means 'in the place of a parent.' Just like parents, we are fallible, but also like parents, we ultimately want the best for your children and their futures.

We also try hard to communicate information effectively. In this school there are many groups to communicate with and sometimes we do find this challenging. We know we need to continually do our best to get information out there. Please help us by reading your newsletters and class notices thoroughly.

**School** begins at 8.55am. We finish at 2.55pm.

**Hats** are compulsory in terms one and four. If children do not have a hat they must stay in the shade. The hats must have a brim that covers ears and neck. Caps are not suitable.

**Absent Children** - If your child is going to be absent from school please ensure you ring (475-3018) or send an email ([office@otari.school.nz](mailto:office@otari.school.nz)) before 8.55am stating why your child is away.

**Lunches** - We have three choices:

- Sushi is available on Tuesdays, ordered online at [www.wrapitup.co.nz](http://www.wrapitup.co.nz)
- Subway is available on Thursdays, ordered online at [www.lunchonline.co.nz](http://www.lunchonline.co.nz)
- Hell Pizza is available on Fridays. Order slips can be found at the office (\$5 each).

**Driveway** - Parents are asked to refrain from parking at the bottom of the driveway between 8.15 - 9.30am and 2.45 - 3.30pm. Parents are to 'drop and go' only. Please do not park up or down the drive and leave your car. The Otari Bush Reserve (around the corner) is available for temporary parking, or park on Wilton Road.

**Cookies** are sold from the office at morning tea. Cookies are 80 cents.

**School Closure** - Should the school need to be closed due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. bad weather) the following will occur:

- A closure notice will go on The Breeze and Newstalk ZB radio stations.
- A closure notice will go on our facebook page.
- A closure notice will go on the school web page. (Make sure you use the refresh button to get up-to-date information.)

***Te Taonga Horomata: Mahi Tahi. Our Virtue is Cooperation***

*Cooperation is working together for the good of all. It is the willingness to stand side by side and see the different gifts each of us has to offer. We seek common goals in service of a unified vision. We blend our abilities to create something none of us could achieve alone.*

Kia pai o koutou wiki – have a great week everyone.

Ngā mihi  
Clifford

<b>He rau ringa e oti ai – Many hands make light work</b>
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#### **Extra-curricular lessons at Otari:**

**Kelly Sports** at is back for Term 1 at Otari. Wednesday lunchtimes - **Summer Sports** for years 1-3 - come and have a go at **Athletics, T-Ball** and **Ball Sports**. We're fun, we're active and we're all about giving it a go and being your best. Come and learn to be a Kelly Sports Star. Call/email the office on 972 7201/ [adminwgtn@kellysports.co.nz](mailto:adminwgtn@kellysports.co.nz) to enrol.

**Keyboard Lessons** – Mondays. Contact Wgtn Music Academy 977-9102.

**Guitar Lessons** – Contact Finn on 022-675-4490

**Community Notices:** *(Please note these notices are passed on to us and are not necessarily an endorsement)*

**Sacraments Programme 2017** - Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion (Sacred Heart Parish, Thorndon; St Mary's of the Angels, Central Wgtn. and Otari Parish – St Teresa's, Karori and St Thomas More, Wilton). Registration forms can be picked from the school office as well as the Otari Parish Office, St Teresa's Church, 301 Karori Road, Karori Tel: 4766131. To be eligible your child should be 8+ years of age before 1 November 2017 and already be baptized into the Catholic faith. The deadline for enrolment is Friday 3 March 2017.

**Heart Foundation Annual Street Appeal – we need your help!** The Heart Foundation's 2017 Wellington Region Street Appeal will take place on 17/18 February 2017 and we need your help! The Annual Appeal is the Heart Foundation's opportunity to raise crucial funds needed to continue our work in beating heart disease and stopping people dying prematurely from heart disease. One person dies from heart disease in NZ every 90 minutes, many of these deaths are premature and preventable. Volunteer and help us fight back! We are now recruiting volunteers to help with the 2017 street appeal. We have various locations where we will be collecting across the region (Wellington, Porirua, Kapiti, Hutt Valley) so if you want to help us please email [Maryl@heartfoundation.org.nz](mailto:Maryl@heartfoundation.org.nz) back and let us know your preferred area. We would love to hear from you!

**Local Drum Lesson's for children 2017!** Mark Lockett B.Mus Perf Jazz, Dip Mus. Recently returned from performing & teaching in NYC. Individual & group lessons available. [www.drumlabs.co.nz](http://www.drumlabs.co.nz) ph 021 0433 663.

**Akimbo Wellington** is a fun dance, music and movement class for children both male and female aged 3+ based on Highland Dancing techniques. The introductory programme helps develop listening, co-ordination, rhythm, spatial awareness, self expression and interaction with other children and parents. Contact Brittany on 0210 252 4381 for more info and class timetable.

**Sunshine Drama** is all about growing confident communication & performance skills in children of all ages. Classes are held Tuesday after school at the Karori Baptist Church Hall and Saturday mornings at the Karori Recreation Centre. For information about our classes, enrolments or to arrange a free trial class, visit [www.sunshinedrama.co.nz](http://www.sunshinedrama.co.nz) or call Jenae Ryan 0274 380533.

**Get into your FLOW with YOGA!** Always wanted to try yoga but don't like the idea of a big group class? Why not get together with a group of friends and have your own private session? Get into your FLOW and start feeling better today. Contact Caroline at: [flowyoganz@gmail.com](mailto:flowyoganz@gmail.com) or 022 3116038 for more details or visit: [flowyoga.co.nz](http://flowyoga.co.nz)

**Zumba Fitness at the Otari School Hall.** Would you like to try out a Zumba Fitness class? Come along and experience the benefits of Zumba Fitness. Zumba classes are held at the Otari School Hall. Classes are suitable for beginners and all levels of fitness. Options will be given to suit your fitness needs. Wednesday 7.15pm – 8.15pm, Friday 6.15pm – 7.15pm. \$8 per class, students \$5. **FIRST CLASS FREE.** 5 and 10 class concession cards available. Contact: Annick 021 462 042 or email [zumbawithannick@gmail.com](mailto:zumbawithannick@gmail.com)

**Is your child shy?** Do they feel intimidated by the idea of public speaking and performance? Do they sometimes find it difficult to make eye contact? Do they just need dedicated time per week to just be CRAZY?! Come and join the revolutionary self-confidence programme - Marrzipan! We run awesome drama classes at school, which focus on key life skills and public speaking ability. We play fun engaging games and perform at the end of term once to parents and once to the school. All scripts are original, engaging, educational and HILARIOUS. You can sign your child up for a Trial Lesson via our website [www.marrzipandrama.co.nz](http://www.marrzipandrama.co.nz) or contact Jex on 027 217 0693.

**Karori Lions Karnival and Fair** is on again – Sunday 19 February at Ben Burn Park, Karori. Quality Stalls selling superb merchandise, adventure rides, children's activities, raffles, lots of food and a full day of stage entertainment for the family. From 10.00 until 3.30 pm. Come along and have some fun.

**Te Ataarangi Ki Poneke – Wgtn Māori Language Classes** - Immerse yourself in a year of te reo Māori. The enrolment period for 2017 Te Ataarangi classes in Mt Cook, Wellington will begin on the 7th of February. Classes commence 28th of February. Serahn Kahukura, Kaiako for Te Ataarangi ki Poneke Email: [teataarangikiponeke@gmail.com](mailto:teataarangikiponeke@gmail.com). For more information about Te Ataarangi organisation or methodology visit <http://www.teataarangi.org.nz>.

**Drama Club** After school Drama & Musical Theatre classes for children. Solo/group drama examinations are available for children of all ages. We have small classes of approximately 6-8 pupils and all classes are grouped by age. Classes available everyday after school. Enrol your child at [www.dramaclub.co.nz](http://www.dramaclub.co.nz), or email us at [admin@dramaclub.co.nz](mailto:admin@dramaclub.co.nz). Alternatively you can contact Bridie on 021 054 2593.

**Piano & Keyboard Lessons** - fun! Pop, modern & classical! Beginners & all levels! Jazz & creative music specialist. Competitive rates - discounts on first lesson & block of 10! Local studio, mobile teaching, flexible times (b.mus, b.sc, dip jazz, dip. Teach, dip. Abrsm (london), nzirmt). Contact Pieter [Pjbosman@hotmail.com](mailto:Pjbosman@hotmail.com) ph: 0212056473, [www.pieterbosmusic.co.nz](http://www.pieterbosmusic.co.nz).

**Get out in Otari-Wilton's Bush** and have fun with your family!!! Saturday 11 March 2017. Everyone Out in Otari is an adventure treasure hunt where you will need to work together to complete activities and navigate to secret points hidden throughout Otari-Wilton's Bush. You'll probably get wet, will definitely get dirty, are likely to learn something new and you'll absolutely have fun. So what are you waiting for! Enter your family team now! Tickets can be purchased from Eventfinda. <http://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2017/everyone-out-in-otari/wellington>. Check us out on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/everyoneout/>

#### **Term Dates 2017**

Term 1: Wed 1 Feb – Wed 12 Apr (school closed: TOD Thurs 13 April)

Term 2: Mon 1 May – Fri 7 July (school closed: Fri 2 June TOD & 5 June Queens Birthday)

Term 3: Mon 24 July – Fri 29 Sept

Term 4: Mon 16 Oct – Tues 19 Dec (school closed: Labour weekend: 23 Oct)

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#### **School Picnic**

- ☐ Enclosed is \$5 for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the picnic.
- ☐ Deduct \$5 from my activity account for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend.
- ☐ Yes, I can parent help: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_